

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5608

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 1720

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON, NL

SUBJ: PRONK INVITATION TO WINSTON LORD TO ATTEND SYMPOSIUM
IN THE HAGUE

REF: STATE 70929; THE HAGUE 1353

1. IN RESPONSE TO GENERAL REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ABOUT
SYMPOSIUM, FOREIGN MINISTRY WORKING LEVEL OFFICIAL PROVIDED ECON
COUNSELOR APRIL 4 WITH DESIRED INFORMATION. ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS
CONTAINED PARA 2 OF STATE REFTEL ARE AS FOLLOWS:

(A) ONLY OTHER USG OFFICIAL INVITED TO ATTEND IS ASSISTANT USAID
ADMINISTRATOR SYDNEY WEINTRAUB WHO HAS AGREED TO PREPARE INTRO-
DUCTORY PAPER AND BE FIRST SPEAKER FOR GROUP ON TRADE. OTHER
AMERICANS PLANNING TO ATTEND INCLUDE IBRD PRESIDENT ROBERT S.
MCNAMARA, IBRD VICE PRESIDENT FOR DEVELOPMENT POLICY HOLLIS B.
CHENERY, AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF WASHINGTON-BASED CONSULTATIVE
GROUP ON FOOD PRODUCTION AND INVESTMENT EDWARD MARTIN;

(B) PARTICIPANTS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND IN THEIR PRIVATE CAPACITIES;

(C) CLOSED WORKING GROUP MEETINGS ON MAY 23 AND MORNING OF MAY 24
WILL BE ON THE LEVEL OF EXPERTS AND PARTICIPANTS WILL BE EXPECTED
TO PRESENT PERSONAL RATHER THAN OFFICIAL VIEWS;

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(D) IN PUBLIC PLENARY SESSION MAY 24 PARTICIPANTS WILL BE

EXPECTED TO STATE PERSONAL RATHER THAN OFFICIAL POSITIONS. INTENTION IS THAT MOST OF PLENARY DISCUSSION WILL BE AMONG PARTICIPANTS OVER SELECTED KEY ISSUES DEVELOPED IN CLOSED SESSIONS WITH SOME QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS BY INTERESTED PARTIES TO BE INVITED AND TO INCLUDE DUTCH CABINET AND OTHER DUTCH OFFICIALS INCLUDING MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, REPRESENTATIVES OF CERTAIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GROUPS, AND PERHAPS SOME REPRESENTATIVES OF DIPLOMATIC CORPS. MINISTER FOR DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PRONK WOULD CONCLUDE PLENARY BY SUMMARIZING DISCUSSIONS THAT TOOK PLACE IN THE STUDY GROUPS AND AT PLENARY. IT IS ALSO PLANNED TO PREPARE A SUMMARY BOOKLET OF SYMPOSIUM TO BE AVAILABLE IN TIME FOR THE SECOND MEETING OF PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR SPECIAL SESSION OF UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON DEVELOPMENT.

2. ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS REGARDING THE SYMPOSIUM HAVE BEEN FORWARDED VIA THE DUTCH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON TO PROVIDE INVITED PARTICIPANTS WITH FURTHER INFORMATION.

3. AS HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY REPORTED (THE HAGUE 1353) MINISTER PRONK FACES A DRUNKEN DRIVING TRIAL ON APRIL 10, THE RESULTS OF WHICH MIGHT POSSIBLY LEAD TO HIS RESIGNATION. WHILE EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO FOLLOW AND REPORT ON THESE DEVELOPMENTS, IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT GON BELIEVES SYMPOSIUM SHOULD PROCEED AND IT IS EXPECTED THAT PRONK WILL PARTICIPATE.

4. EMBASSY BELIEVES IT WOULD BE ADVANTAGEOUS FOR INVITED US OFFICIALS

TO ATTEND WHAT APPEARS TO BE AN INTERESTING AND TIMELY DISCUSSION AMONG SOME VERY DISTINGUISHED EXPERTS. TANGUY

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